global change processes. India is not involved in the programme.

(c) Under the United Nations guidelines, imaging over any part of the world is accepted under the open sky policy. Hence, no permission is needed for imaging India.

Difficulty in releasing funds under MPLADS

3506. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are finding it difficult to release funds under MPLAD Scheme due to financial crunch;

(b) if not, whether all Members of Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha have received funds under MPLAD Scheme for first quarter of the year 2001; and

(c) if not, the number of projects pending for release of funds under MPLAD Scheme as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), each Member of Parliament is entitled to Rs. 2 crores per year. Accordingly, Budget provisions of Rs. 1580 crores for the current financial year have been provided for 790 Members of Parliament @ Rs. 2 crores per MP per annum.

(b) and (c) Under MPLADS funds are released to District Heads on receipt of Expenditure Statement, showing an unsanctioned balance less than Rs. 50 lakhs. In case of all Members of Parliament where the above criterion has been fulfilled, the next instalments of funds during first quarter of 2001 have been released.

Cost escalation and time over-run of central Projects

3507. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Finance has taken seriously the matter that various projects of the Central Government which has resulted